



STARMAN AND PLASTIC MAN

STARRING IN

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

40¢
ALL NEW!
NO. 472
JUNE

ADVENTURE COMICS®

YOU CAN'T
PUT IT OFF
ANY LONGER,
STARMAN!

YOU MUST FREE
THE WOMAN
TRAPPED
INSIDE THAT
CRYPT!

I'M SORRY,
MN' TORR--BUT
I CAN'T
DO IT!

**I
CAN'T!**

AND IF YOU THINK THE **STELLAR
SENTINEL** HAS PROBLEMS, JUST
TAKE A PEEK AT **PLASTIC MAN'S**
PERILOUS PREDICAMENT!



HE IS A RUMOR TO IMPERIAL SECURITY--
AN ELUSIVE ENEMY TO THOSE WHO WOULD
DISTURB THE MILLENNIAL PEACE--AND UN-
KNOWN TO ALL, THIS MOST DANGEROUS MAN
IN THE GALAXY HIDES A PERPETUAL DEATH
SENTENCE UNDER THE MASK OF...

DEATH AND DESTRUCTION: THE NAKED AFTERMATH
OF VIOLENT POWER, DRIFTING LIKE SO MUCH FLOTSAM
ON A SEA OF STARS. YET THE FATE OF TWO LIVES
DEAR TO STARMAN HANGS IN THE BALANCE HERE...

A FEW HOURS AGO
THAT WAS THE
GYRFALCON--THE
PRIDE OF THE
IMPERIAL STARFLEET,
THE EMPRESS' OWN
FLAGSHIP--

--BUT NOW IT MIGHT
JUST AS WELL BE
STARJUNK!

STARMAN

...AND ONLY ONE SHALL SURVIVE!



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GOSSON
LETTERS

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EDITOR

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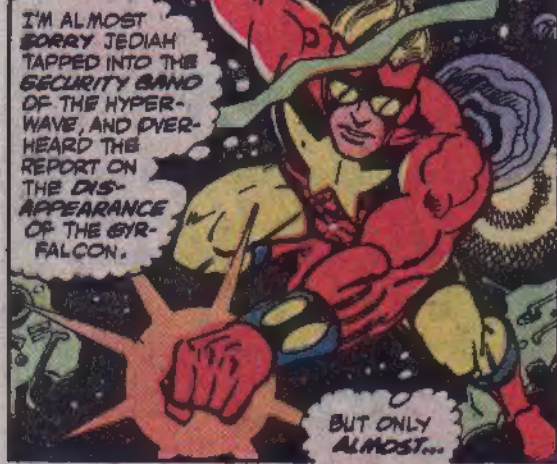
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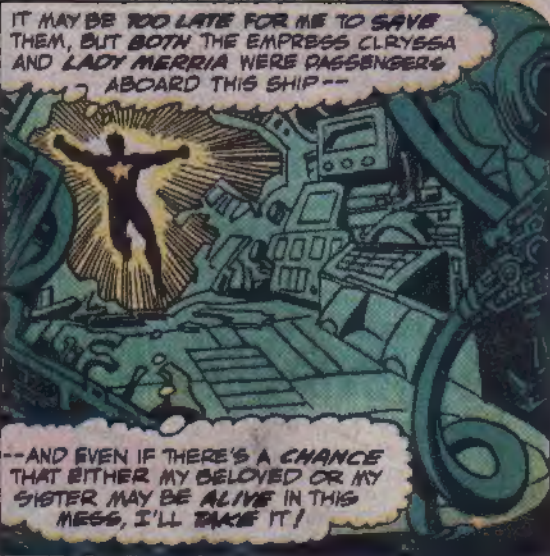
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I'M ALMOST
SORRY JEDIAH
TAPPED INTO THE
SECURITY BAND
OF THE HYPER-
WAVE, AND OVER-
HEARD THE
REPORT ON
THE DIS-
APPEARANCE
OF THE GYR-
FALCON.

BUT ONLY
ALMOST...



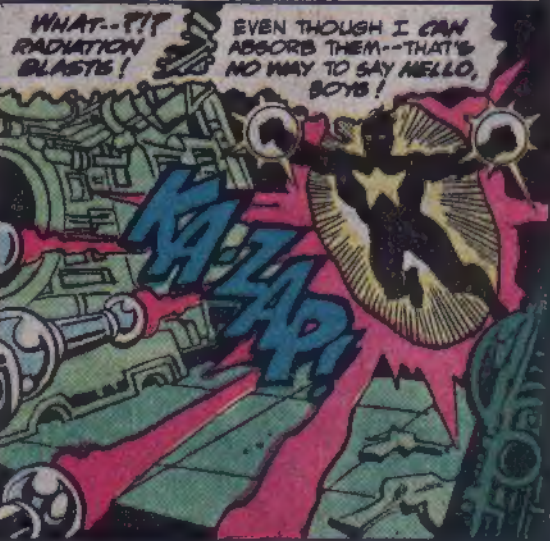
IT MAY BE TOO LATE FOR ME TO SAVE
THEM, BUT BOTH THE EMPRESS CLYSSA
AND LADY MERRIA WERE PASSENGERS
ABOARD THIS SHIP--

--AND EVEN IF THERE'S A CHANCE
THAT EITHER MY BELOVED OR MY
SISTER MAY BE ALIVE IN THIS
MESS, I'LL TAKE IT!



MY STELLAR POWERS
COULD MAKE THE
DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN THEIR
LIVING OR DYING.
SO--

LIGHT! THEN THERE
IS A CHANCE SOME-
ONE SURVIVED!



WHAT--?!!
RADIATION
BLASTS!

EVEN THOUGH I CAN
ABSORB THEM--THAT'S
NO WAY TO SAY HELLO,
BOYS!



JUST HOLD IT, STARMAN!
WE HAVE OTHER WEAPONS--
DEADLIER WEAPONS--AND IF
YOU DON'T BACK OFF, WE'LL
HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO
USE THEM!

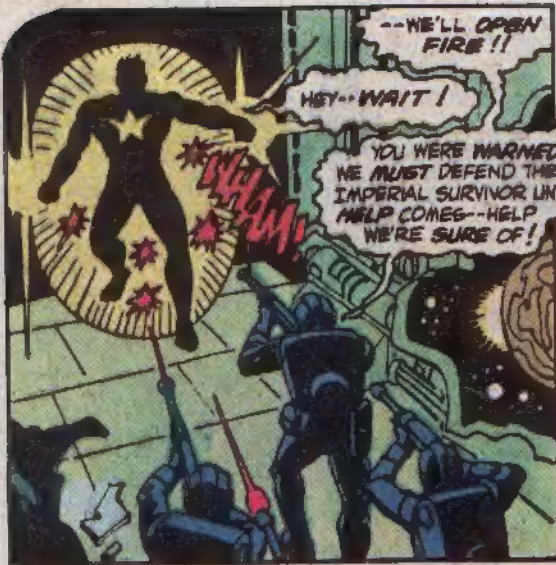
I CAN'T KNOW WHETHER
YOU WERE BEHIND THE
SNEAK ATTACK ON THIS
VESSEL, SO AS THE RANK-
ING, SURVIVING IMPERIAL
GUARDSMAN, I COMMAND
YOU TO DEPART--



THAT'S INSANE!
I'M HERE TO
HELP!

THEN GO FOR
HELP, STARMAN!
BUT IF YOU TAKE
ANOTHER STEP
CLOSER--

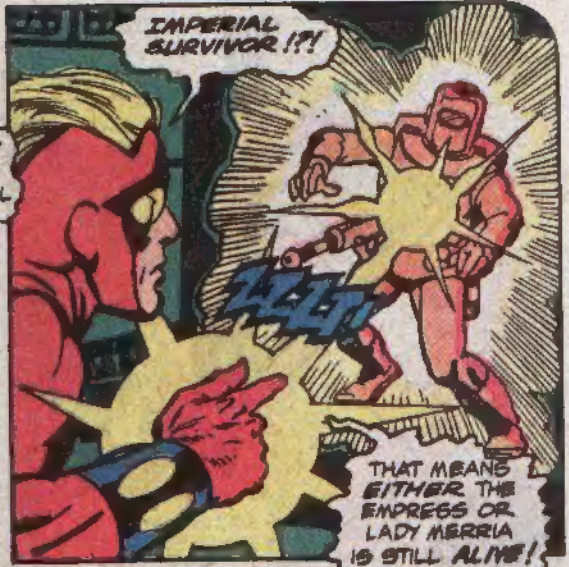
--NOW!



--WE'LL OPEN FIRE!!

HEY--WAIT!

YOU WERE WARNED!
WE MUST DEFEND THE
IMPERIAL SURVIVOR UNTIL
HELP COMES--HELP
WE'RE SURE OF!



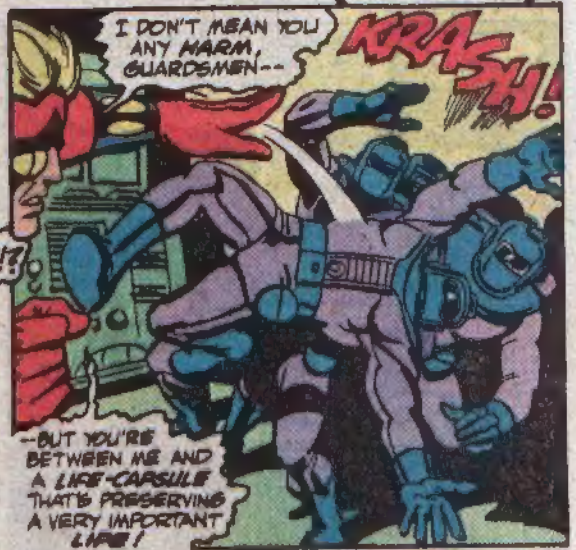
IMPERIAL
SURVIVOR!?!

THAT MEANS
EITHER THE
EMPRESS OR
LADY MERRIA
IS STILL ALIVE!



--WHICH LEAVES ME NO
TIME TO WASTE ON YOU!

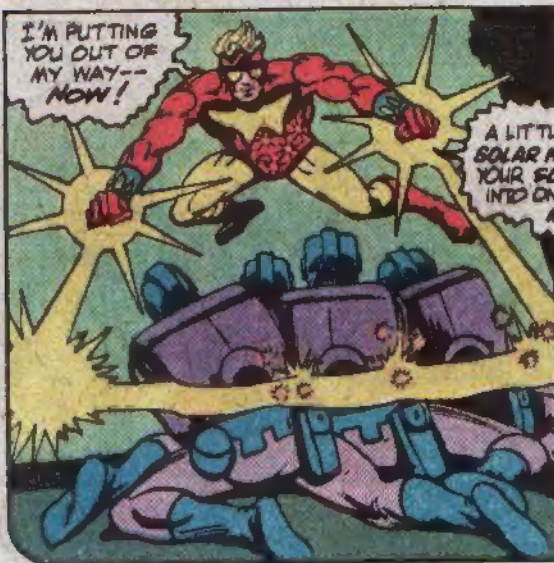
WH--?!!



I DON'T MEAN YOU
ANY HARM,
GUARDSMEN--

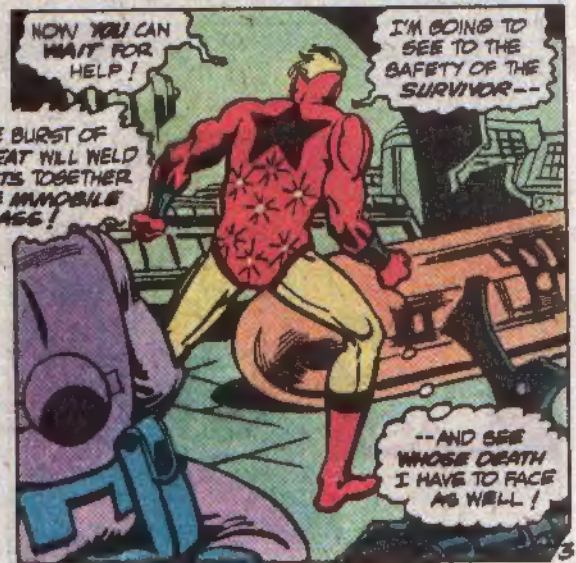
KRAASH!!

--BUT YOU'RE
BETWEEN ME AND
A LIFE-CAPSULE
THAT'S PRESERVING
A VERY IMPORTANT
LIFE!



I'M PUTTING
YOU OUT OF
MY WAY--
NOW!

A LITTLE BURST OF
SOLAR HEAT WILL WELD
YOUR SUITS TOGETHER
INTO ONE IMMOBILE
MASS!



NOW YOU CAN
WAIT FOR
HELP!

I'M GOING TO
SEE TO THE
SAFETY OF THE
SURVIVOR--

--AND SEE
WHOSE DEATH
I HAVE TO FACE
AS WELL!



OH NO! THE CAPSULE'S
SEALED--WHICH MEANS
WHOEVER'S INSIDE
DOESN'T HAVE A
LIFE-SUPPORT
SUIT ON!

I CAN'T OPEN THE
CAPSULE UNTIL I
CAN GET IT PLANET-
SIDE SOME-
WHERE!

DO NOT GIVE IN TO
DESPAIR SO QUICKLY,
STARMAN!



MAN'TERR! YOU
DID IT AGAIN--
POPPING UP OUT
OF NOWHERE!

THIS TIME YOU NEED
NOT CREDIT ME,
MY FRIEND!



HUHN...?

SOMEHOW, I THOUGHT THIS
WAS ONE TIME YOU WERE
BETTER OFF WITH US RIGHT
ON YOUR HEELS, STARMAN!

JEDIAN!



WELL, I WAS THE ONE
WHO HEARD ABOUT THIS
IN THE FIRST PLACE,
WASN'T I?

INDEED
YOU
WERE--



--AND BY HELPING ME TRANSPORT THIS
LIFE-CAPSULE, YOU MAY HAVE ACCOM-
PLISHED FAR MORE IN THIS MATTER
THAN I WITH ALL MY POWERS!

IT'S THE
LEAST
I CAN
DO FOR
YOU!



AND MOMENTS LATER...

WELL,
LAD?

I...I CAN'T.
I JUST CAN'T
OPEN IT!

I CAN'T FACE
FINDING OUT...

CONTINUED ON 345 PAGE FOLLOWING.



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beautiful bubbles.
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a long, long, loooong time.



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DO NOT REPRESENT ACTUAL SEA-MONKEYS®



ADMITTEDLY WHAT
AWAITS YOU IS NOT
PLEASANT, LAD...

...BUT THE
TRUTH WILL
NOT VANISH
IF NOT CON-
FRONTED!



SO LET US SEE
WHO IS WITHIN--
WHILE WE MAY
STILL DO SOME
GOOD!

CLANK!



MERRIA!

THANK THE HEAVENS
YOU LIVE, MY LOVE!

STARMAN!
B-BUT HOW
DID YOU
GET--



BUT WHAT DOES IT MATTER?
I'M SO GLAD TO SEE YOU,
MY PRINCE--

I WAS SCARED,
MERRIA... SO
DESPERATELY
AFRAID YOU
MIGHT NOT HAVE
LIVED...

--ESPECIALLY SO SOON
AFTER I FEARED I
MIGHT NEVER SEE YOU
AGAIN!



AS WAS I, STARMAN--
FOR WHEN THE ALIENS
CARRIED OFF THE
EMPRESS, IT SEEMED--

CARRIED
OFF?!

THEN MY
SISTER ALSO
LIVES IT

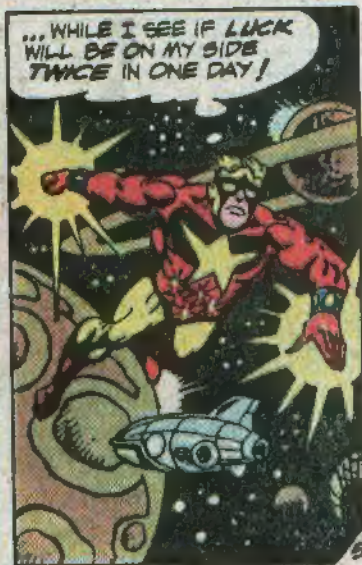


SHE MAY NOT LIVE NOW BUT
SHE WAS ALIVE WHEN I SAW
THE ALIENS SEIZE HER--

--AND SINCE I DON'T KNOW WHY
WE WERE ATTACKED, OR WHY SHE
WAS TAKEN, I CAN ONLY HOPE
SHE LIVES!



IN THAT CASE, MY LOVE, I MUST
CUT OUR REUNION SHORT, AND
LEAVE YOU IN THE CARE OF MY
FRIENDS...



...WHILE I SEE IF LUCK
WILL BE ON MY SIDE
TWICE IN ONE DAY!

HOURS LATER, AS A GLISTENING PLASTI-SHEATH IS SLIPPED OVER THE CRIPPLED GYRFALCON...

MOVE THAT CUTTER-ROD, CAPTAIN--I WANT THOSE MEN FREED!

YES, SIR, COMMODORE RYCHER!

THIS SHOULD JUST ABOUT DO IT, SIR!

THEN START EXPLAINING, GUARDSMAN! WHAT THE BLAZES HAPPENED HERE?

AN UNIDENTIFIED CRAFT ATTACKED US SUDDENLY, SIR--!

OUR DEFENSIVE MANEUVERS WERE POINT-LESS--THE SHIP SLICED US OPEN IN SECONDS, AND THEN A TRACTOR BEAM YANKED THE EMPRESS AWAY... WE COULDN'T SEE WHERE...

JUST THE EMPRESS?

EVERYONE ELSE WAS ALREADY DYING, SIR--EXCEPT FOR OUR UNIT AND LADY MERRIA, WHOM WE PUT IN A LIFE-CAPSULE!

BUT STARMAN TOOK THE CAPSULE AWAY... RIGHT AFTER HE WELDED US TOGETHER LIKE THIS.

STARMAN, HUH? MY SECTION OF IMPERIAL SECURITY HAS BEEN WONDERING ABOUT HIM.

CAPTAIN, HAVE ALL KNOWN DATA ON STARMAN BEAMED TO OUR SHIP. WE'RE GOING TO FIND HIM--

--AND GET LADY MERRIA BACK!

LADY MERRIA? BUT WHAT ABOUT THE EMPRESS, SIR?

SHE'S PRESUMED DEAD, CAPTAIN--BY ORDER OF THE IMPERIAL COUNCIL!

THE THIRD FLEET OF THE ARMADA IS ALREADY ON THE TRAIL OF THE ALIENS, WITH ORDERS TO SEEK AND DESTROY: NO PRISONERS, NO SURVIVORS!

WE'RE GOING TO SHOW THEM HOW THE EMPIRE DEALS WITH ASSASSINS!

MEANWHILE...

THE ALIEN SHIP IS USING A HYPER-DRIVE SO POWERFUL NORMAL SPACE IS BEING DISTORTED FOR LIGHT YEARS BY ITS PASSING...

...AND JUDGING FROM THE INTENSE PATTERN, I'VE GOT TO BE NEARING THE SOURCE.

THAT MUST BE IT--THOUGH IT LOOKS LESS LIKE A HEAVILY-ARMED STARSHIP THAN A SET OF CHILD'S BLOCKS DRIFTING IN SPACE!

BUT IF THAT IS THE ALIEN SHIP, I CAN'T FORGET WHAT IT DID TO THE GYRFALCON--

--SINCE IT CAN PROBABLY DO PRECISELY THE SAME TO ME!

SINCE THE ALIENS WENT TO SUCH LENGTHS TO CAPTURE CLAYSSA-- AND ONLY CLYSSA-- I HAVE TO ASSUME SHE'S ALIVE IN THERE--

--BUT I'D GIVE A BILLION CREDITS TO KNOW WHERE!

IF I BURN MY WAY IN AT THE WRONG POINT, I MIGHT NEVER GET TO HER!

HUHH--THE EXTERIOR WALL IS EXPANDING-- ENVELOPING ME!

WHAT A WEIRD DEFENSE! BUT IT'LL ONLY TAKE A MINUTE TO BURN CLEAR!

NO--WAIT A SECOND!

THIS ISN'T A DEFENSE MECHANISM-- IT'S SOME SORT OF CRAZY AIRLOCK!

I'M BEING PULLED IN!

STRANGE--THERE'S NO WELCOMING COMMITTEE, NO ARMED GUARDS-- NOTHING!

THE GATEWAY MUST BE AUTOMATIC... BUT WHY?

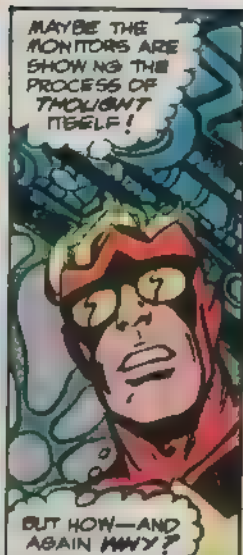
AND WHY PULL ME INTO THIS KALEIDOSCOPIC NIGHTMARE?

THERE MUST BE A HUNDRED MONITOR SCREENS IN SIGHT, AND EVERY ONE OF THEM SHOWS SOMETHING INCOMPREHENSIBLE!



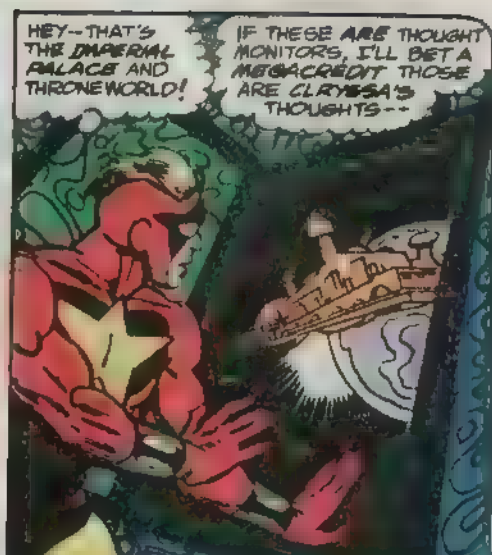
WHAT'S MORE, AS FAST AS I THINK I BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND THEM, THE PICTURES CHANGE!

WHY... MAYBE THAT'S IT!



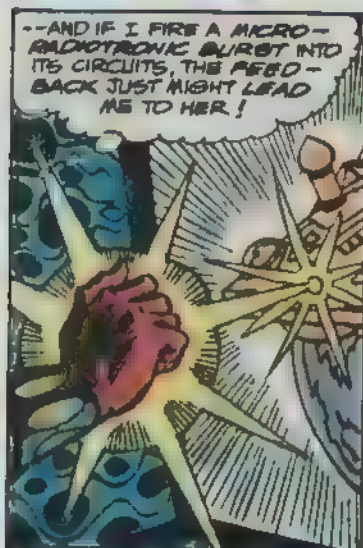
MAYBE THE MONITORS ARE SHOWING THE PROCESS OF THOUGHT ITSELF!

BUT HOW--AND AGAIN WHY?

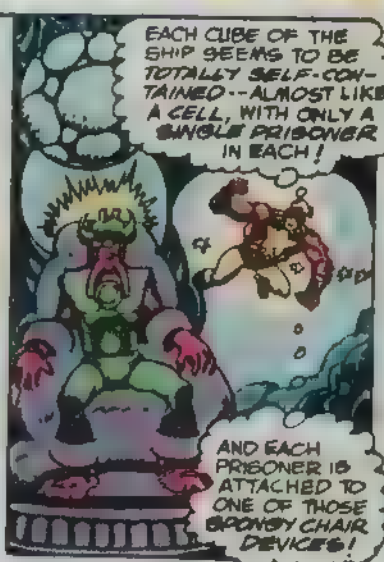


HEY--THAT'S THE IMPERIAL PALACE AND THRONEWORLD!

IF THESE ARE THOUGHT MONITORS, I'LL BET A MEGACREDIT THOSE ARE CLYSSA'S THOUGHTS--

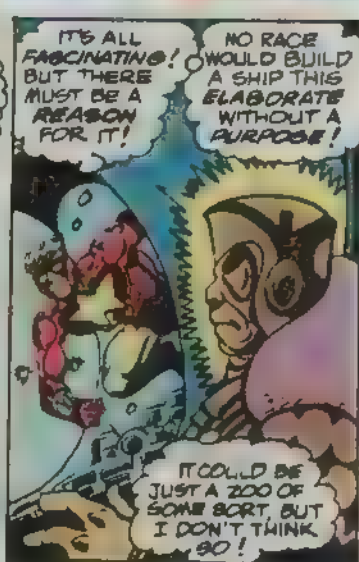


--AND IF I FIRE A MICRO-RADIOTRONIC BURST INTO ITS CIRCUITS, THE FEED-BACK JUST MIGHT LEAD ME TO HER!



EACH CUBE OF THE SHIP SEEMS TO BE TOTALLY SELF-CONTAINED--ALMOST LIKE A CELL, WITH ONLY A SINGLE PRISONER IN EACH!

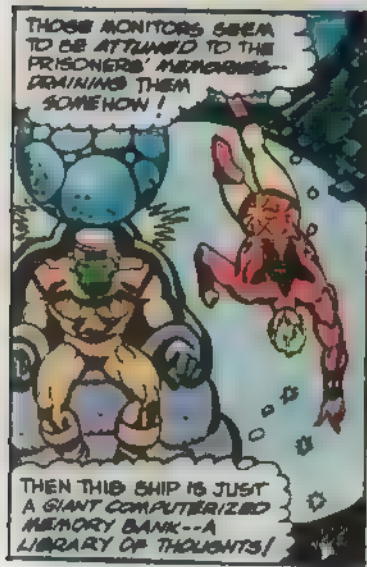
AND EACH PRISONER IS ATTACHED TO ONE OF THOSE GIGANTIC CHAIR DEVICES!



IT'S ALL FASCINATING! BUT THERE MUST BE A REASON FOR IT!

NO RACE WOULD BUILD A SHIP THIS ELABORATE WITHOUT A PURPOSE!

IT COULD BE JUST A ZOO OF SOME SORT, BUT I DON'T THINK SO!



THOSE MONITORS SEEM TO BE ATTACHED TO THE PRISONERS' MEMORIES--REMINING THEM SOMEHOW!

THEN THIS SHIP IS JUST A GIANT COMPUTERIZED MEMORY BANK--A LIBRARY OF THOUGHTS!



AND THEY CHOOSE CLYSSA AS THE HUMAN ENTRY! WHAT A BIZARRE CONCEPT!

WHY... MY RADIATION'S GLOWING BRIGHTER AT THAT DOOR--CLYSSA MUST BE INSIDE!

HAVE TO BE CAREFUL, THOUGH. SHE DOESN'T KNOW STARMAN IS REALLY HER BROTHER!

...AND IF I DON'T WANT TO BE EXECUTED AS A POTENTIAL RIVAL CANDIDATE FOR THE THRONE, SHE BETTER NOT FIND OUT, EITHER!

THE FLASH™

A FLASH IN THE DAM

I WANT EVERYBODY TO BE MISERABLE AND UNHAPPY LIKE ME. THEY WILL BE WHEN I DESTROY THE DOOVER DAM!



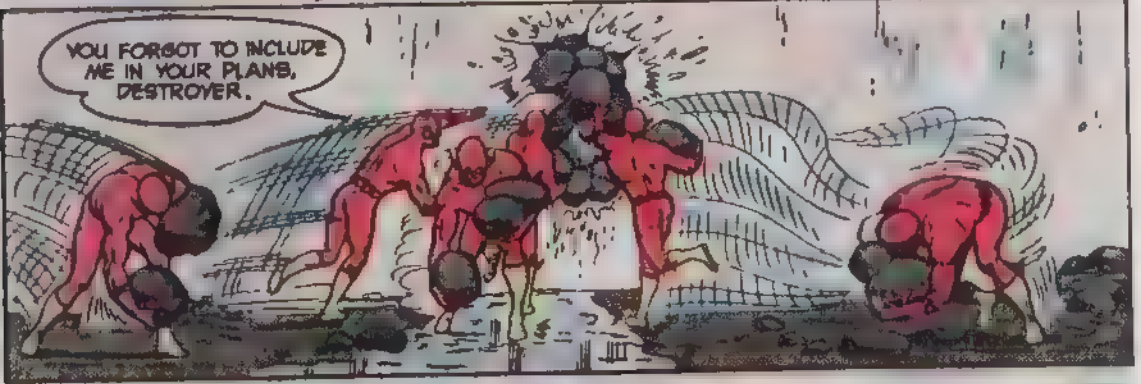
THE DESTROYER WILL BLAST THE DAM TO PIECES... UNLESS I GET THERE FIRST.



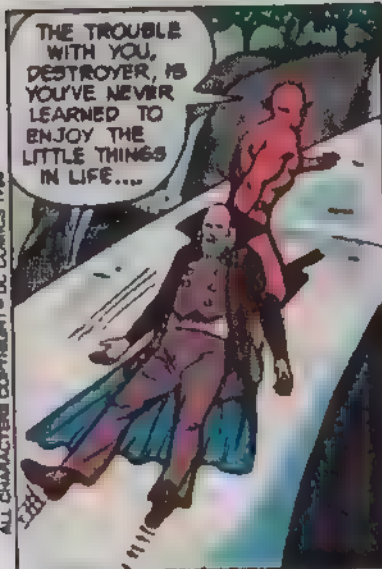
WHOOOPS. THE DESTROYER STARTED WITHOUT ME... BUT I'M HERE NOW!



YOU FORGOT TO INCLUDE ME IN YOUR PLANS, DESTROYER.



THE TROUBLE WITH YOU, DESTROYER, IS YOU'VE NEVER LEARNED TO ENJOY THE LITTLE THINGS IN LIFE...



WHY THESE ARE HOSTESS® TWINKIES® CAKES. MMM... THIS LIGHT, GOLDEN SPONGE CAKE AND CREAMED FILLING.



YOU WIN, FLASH. I'LL GIVE MYSELF UP! THERE IS A LOT OF HAPPINESS IN HOSTESS TWINKIES CAKES.



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COLLECTOR'S ITEM OF
1980--THREE THRILLING ISSUES
THAT WILL REVEAL THE SECRETS
OF BATMAN--HIS FAMILY--HIS
FRIENDS--HIS ENEMIES--
AND HIS INCREDIBLE
ARSENAL!

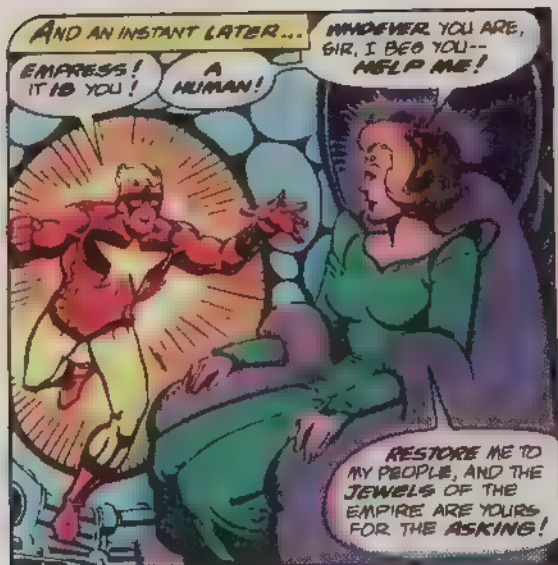
49¢
ALL NEW
NO. 1
JULY

THIS BOOK
WILL TELL US
EVERYTHING WE
NEED TO KNOW
TO DEFEAT
THE BATMAN!

The UNTOLD LEGEND OF THE BATMAN

by LEN WEIN
JOHN BYRNE
& JIM APARO

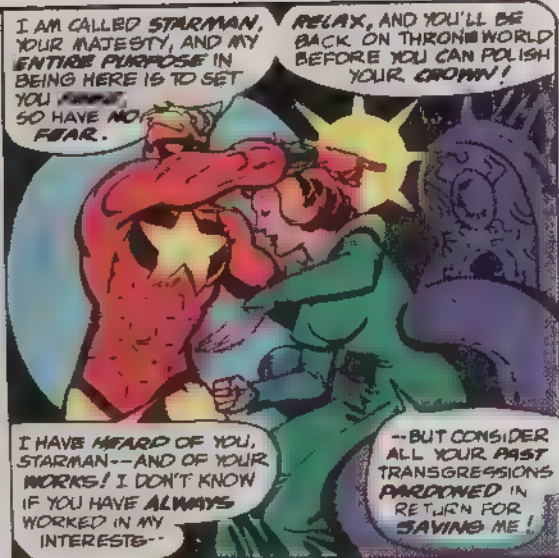
COLLECT THE SERIES
BEGINNING WITH ISSUE
NUMBER ONE ON SALE APRIL 24th
ISSUE NUMBER TWO ON SALE
MAY 22nd AND THE CONCLUDING
ISSUE NUMBER THREE
ON SALE JUNE 26th!



AND AN INSTANT LATER...
EMPRESS!
IT IS YOU!
A HUMAN!

WHATEVER YOU ARE,
SIR, I BEG YOU--
HELP ME!

RESTORE ME TO
MY PEOPLE, AND THE
JEWELS OF THE
EMPIRE ARE YOURS
FOR THE ASKING!



I AM CALLED STARMAN,
YOUR MAJESTY, AND MY
ENTIRE PURPOSE IN
BEING HERE IS TO SET
YOU FREE.
SO HAVE NO
FEAR.

RELAX, AND YOU'LL BE
BACK ON THRONESWORLD
BEFORE YOU CAN POLISH
YOUR CROWN!

I HAVE HEARD OF YOU,
STARMAN--AND OF YOUR
WORKS! I DON'T KNOW
IF YOU HAVE ALWAYS
WORKED IN MY
INTERESTS--

--BUT CONSIDER
ALL YOUR PAST
TRANSGRESSIONS
PARDONED IN
RETURN FOR
SAVING ME!



THE MONSTERS
THOUGHT TO
KEEP ME HERE
FOREVER!

THIS CELL HAS
PERPETUAL
LIFE
SUPPORT,
THEY SAID--

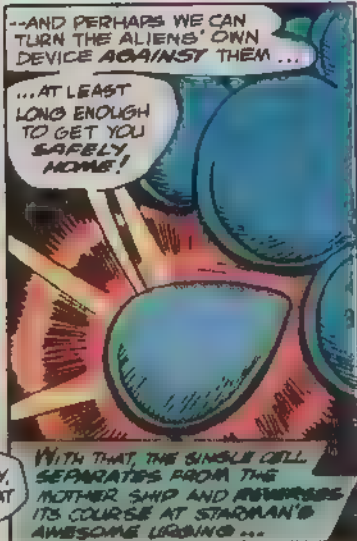
--I WOULD HAVE BEEN
DOOMED TO LIVE HERE
FOREVER--AS ANOTHER
BIT OF DATA IN THEIR
MASSIVE MEMORY
BLANKS!



BUT NOW YOU
MAY TAKE ME
TO SAFETY
IN YOUR SHIP!

I HAVE
NO SHIP,
MAJESTY!

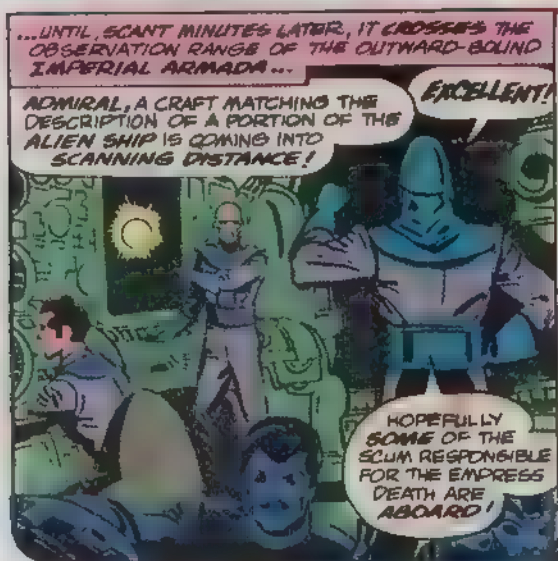
BUT IF THIS CELL
TRULY HAS LIFE
SUPPORT CAPABILITY,
I CAN COMBINE THAT
WITH MY OWN
MOTIVE POWER--



--AND PERHAPS WE CAN
TURN THE ALIENS' OWN
DEVICE AGAINST THEM...

...AT LEAST
LONG ENOUGH
TO GET YOU
SAFELY
HOME!

WITH THAT, THE SINGLE CELL
SEPARATES FROM THE
MOTHER SHIP AND REVERSES
ITS COURSE AT STARMAN'S
AWESOME URGING...

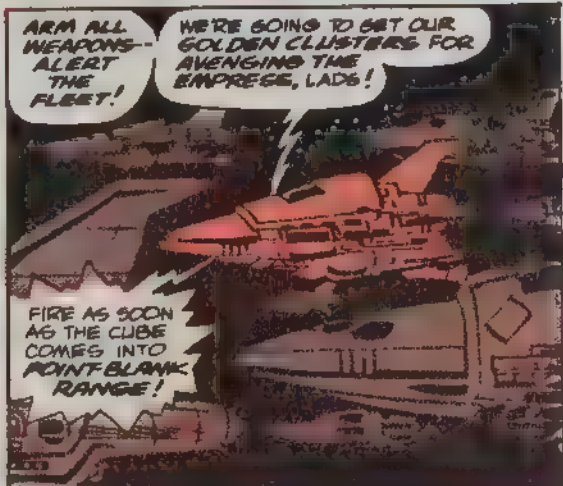


...UNTIL, SCANT MINUTES LATER, IT CROSSES THE
OBSERVATION RANGE OF THE OUTWARD-BOUND
IMPERIAL ARMADA...

ADMIRAL, A CRAFT MATCHING THE
DESCRIPTION OF A PORTION OF THE
ALIEN SHIP IS COMING INTO
SCANNING DISTANCE!

EXCELLENT!

HOPEFULLY
SOME OF THE
SCUM RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE EMPRESS
DEATH ARE
ABOARD!



ARM ALL
WEAPONS--
ALERT
THE
FLEET!

WE'RE GOING TO GET OUR
GOLDEN CLUSTERS FOR
AVENGING THE
EMPRESS, LADS!

FIRE AS SOON
AS THE CUBE
COMES INTO
POINT-BLANK
RANGE!

NEXT: DESTRUCTION...?

DATELINE: ADVENTURE

L-509

Dear Editor,

Plastic Men was never at the top of my "hit parade", but I could grow to love that vulcanized vigilante, like a million other fans, should Len Wein and Joe Staton's future fables remain faithful to the screw-loose quality of Pias' debut in *ADVENTURE* #467.

It was extremely clever how our hero ferreted out the sanctuary of Carlton Canary. I would have consulted the local Audubon chapter before looking in a filing cabinet under C.

I agree with Woody, though. Somebody should stand up and give him a testimonial speech for his devotion to the N.B.I., and I would like to suggest that the speaker be Ally Babbie.

From satire to the space opera that Starman portends, is quite a contrast, and will certainly add an adventurous spirit to the monthly *ADVENTURE*, drawing me back for each new installment of both series.

Good luck, all-around.

Jeffrey Lowndes
808 Sunset St.
Scranton, Pa. 18508

We were gratified by the pile of positive mail that the first new ADVENTURE generated, and by the fact that our readers like the idea that we're gambling on a new style of comic for the eighties, with twin series back between one set of covers. The only negative comments that were featured in more than one letter are those that our next correspondent sums up...

Dear Editor,

I may be a voice crying in the wilderness, but I can contain myself no longer. I'm disappointed in how *ADVENTURE COMICS* was mercilessly butchered in the prime of its new format. I really felt Deadman, Aquaman, and the Justice Society were really going someplace. Not one issue contained a dull moment, but kept with the theme of *ADVENTURE*. Each series was something to look forward to every other month, just as its sister comic, *WORLD'S FINEST*.

I'm ecstatic that you've kept Superman and Batman's dollar-size going, but perhaps that's what *ADVENTURE* needed was a lead feature for its cover. Since Flash has his own mag already you could've at least squeezed Plastic Men and Starman in somehow! There! I've got it all out! I want you to know I'm still angry with you, DC, but I still love you!

Neil Ahlquist
1315 Madison St. NE
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413

ADVENTURE COMICS wasn't cut down to a standard-size mag because we didn't like it as a dollar comic. Neil, in fact, the concept of the dollar *ADVENTURE* was nearer and dearer to our editorial hearts than that of almost any other dollar comic, with the potential for creativity inherent in any multi-feature book. The change to the new format happened because there simply weren't as many readers buying *ADVENTURE* as, let's say, *WORLD'S FINEST*. So next time a comic strikes your fancy (like, let's say, the new *ADVENTURE*, hopefully) get out there and spread the word!

Dear Len and Paul:

About the new *ADVENTURE*—a fast comment about the new Plastic Man. The best version of Pias DC has ever done. Staton's art fitting smoothly into the Jack Cole style, and the writing was equally zany, a delight to read. 'Nuff said.

Now about Starman—I like him. I'm not wildly enthusiastic for him in his own appearance, but he is intriguing and interesting. A "Star Wars Superman", similar to Ditko's Captain Atom and the later Captain Mar-Vell in a lot of ways. A Star Wars take-off in comics was inevitable (in fact, we already have one—Micronauts) and you managed to intermesh the super-hero and space epic themes quite interestingly. He is

more like the original than that one-shot Starman Gerry Conway developed, albeit with his stellar powers concentrated in his gloves rather than in his predecessor's gravity rod. It's hard to tell from his first story, since we know so little about his origins and limits, but I think—you have a winner here. I don't think this issue will be an immediate sellout, but I do think this series will intrigue fans for quite a while, and may eventually lead to Starman's own book.

Love that Ditko art, and the fact that Starman is at home in interplanetary space as Aquaman in his seas or Hawkman in the air makes for intriguing touches. His powers—stellar blasts, ability to survive and "ride" on solar currents in space, and near-invulnerability (perhaps it's his costume that's invulnerable?) make for an intriguing set of powers. But call me a traditionalist, but I think he'll be a little more successful if you give him a touch of super-strength. Not MUCH, compared to Superman—say, the strength of a dozen men. (Of course, that may bring uncomfortable comparisons with Captain Mar-Vell and Captain Atom.) But keep the main emphasis on his stellar energies. You might give him several sort of star-related powers—for instance, a "black hole" blast which will cause any object he aims it at to be totally destroyed, collapsing into itself under intense gravity.

I'm going to take some time getting used to that costume, however. Original, as expected from a Ditko costume—perhaps too original. Still, the thing that bothers me most about his appearance is his hair. I think if his hair was a little longer—maybe a bit hanging over his mask and down into his face—he'd be much more appealing-looking.

And despite the success of Star Wars—I'm a little suspicious of *TOTALLY* alien dramas. You will remember how *Warlock* failed, when it went all-alien. Certainly the climate has changed, with the massive success of Star Wars. Still...some slight connection to Earth would perhaps be wise. (Remember how *Battlestar Galactica* bombed.) I was hoping that perhaps Starman himself might be an earthman in the middle of a totally alien drama, but from various references in the story that doesn't seem to be the case. Still—perhaps you might have an exploratory craft of the empire return bearing a native of a planet they stopped at—a female native, of the world called Earth. She could fall in love with Starman, and give an earthbound touch to the series—serve as a sort of Dr. Watson, the one to explain unfamiliar customs and situations to, and therefore to the reader.

Uh...Mr. Tor? That NAME...still, at least he's an ALIEN looking alien, rather than looking like Shazam or the Ancient One.

And I did appreciate the DIFFERENCES from Star Wars—for instance, that this seems to be a relatively benign empire, but with ambitious politics within the realm who are planning on staging a coup.

I do like the BALANCE in the new *Adventure*. Whimsical fantasy in Plastic Man, Star Wars-action in Starman—they are so different that they complement each other, the way Dr. Strange's occult ways balanced Nick Fury's spy action in the old *STRANGE TALES*—either would have not succeeded on its own, but together, they balanced each other and made a sale-worthy title. I hope *ADVENTURE* will do the same.

Al Schroeder III
3808 Richland Avenue
Nashville, Tenn. 37208

If Starman is a take-off on Star Wars, then as in all science fiction. There's hardly anything unique about Galactic Empires, and as subsequent episodes have made clear, the relationship between Starman and his Empire is very different from that of Luke Skywalker and his. And as for the all-alien point, we think that can be a problem...but only if the aliens fail to show human personalities and appearance. Whether Starman is set in the future, present or past...and wherever it's set...we think it's a story with enough human interest to strike home.

NEXT MONTH: Starman becomes the man in the middle of a small war, and Plastic Man puts the wraps on Lawbrow and friends. All courtesy of the usual creative teams, even!

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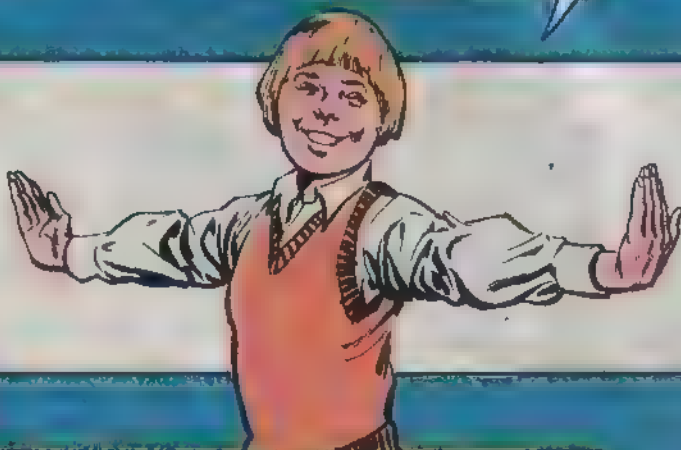
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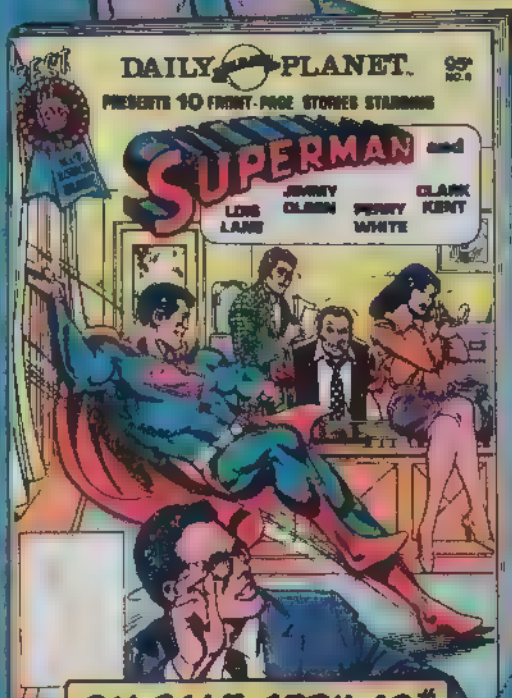
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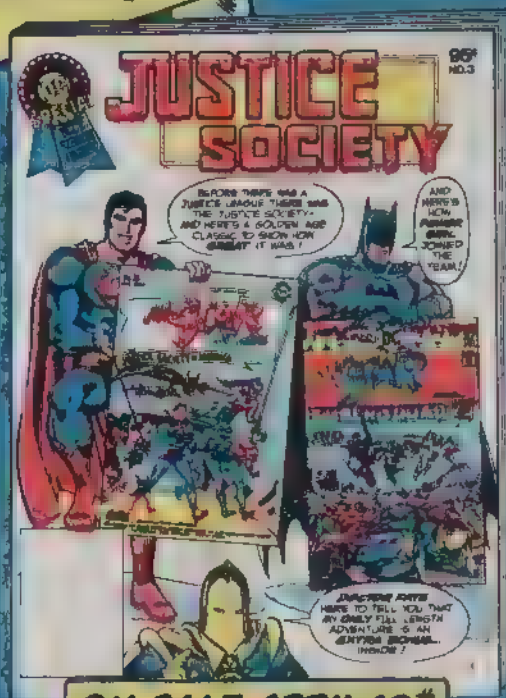
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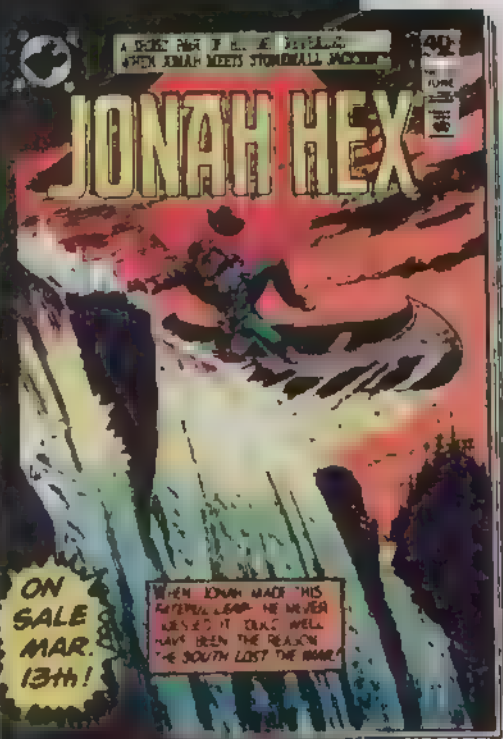
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CREATED BY
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WELCOME TO THE WOMEN'S WARD OF THE COUNTY JAIL, WHERE SWEET YOUNG CINDY BLOCH IS GETTING HER FIRST TASTE OF THE DUBIOUS JOYS OF INCARCERATION...

SEE WHILLYNERS! WHAT'S A NICE GIRL LIKE ME DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?

YOU'RE BASICALLY A DECENT SORT, CINDY--MERELY MISGUIDED... SO I'M SORRY TO SEE YOU LAND IN JAIL...

... BUT THAT'S USUALLY WHAT HAPPENS TO BLACKMAILERS!

STORY: MARTIN PASKO • ART: JOE STATON & BOB SMITH • COLOR: GENE D'ANGELO • LETTERING: BEN COA • EDITOR: LEN WHEAT

IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO--?

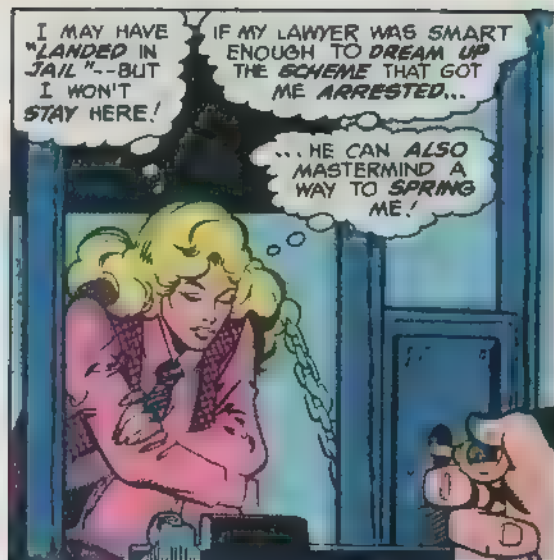
WELL... COULD YOU TELL MY SISTER WHERE I AM? I'VE ALREADY USED UP THE ONE PHONE-CALL I'M ENTITLED TO...

SURE THING!

HOW D'YA SPOGE A NICE KID LIKE THAT GOT MIXED UP IN EXTORTION, PLAS?

HER LAWYER'S TO BLAME-- IT WAS HIS IDEA! TOO BAD SHE REFUSES TO NAME HIM, THOUGH--?

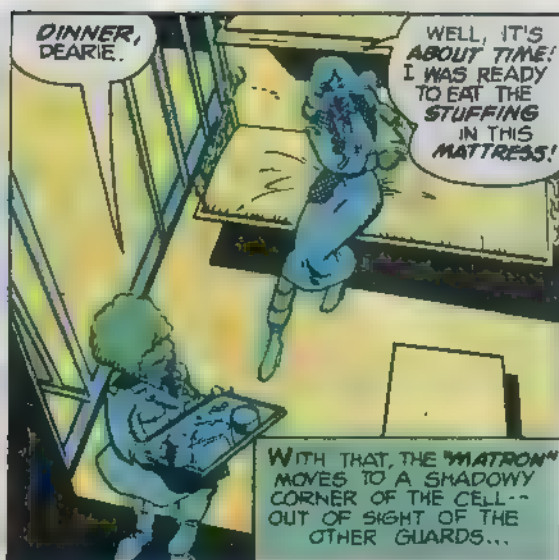
SEE, THAT'S THE UGLIEST WOMAN I'VE EVER SEEN...



I MAY HAVE
"LANDED IN
JAIL"--BUT
I WON'T
STAY HERE!

IF MY LAWYER WAS SMART
ENOUGH TO DREAM UP
THE SCHEME THAT GOT
ME ARRESTED...

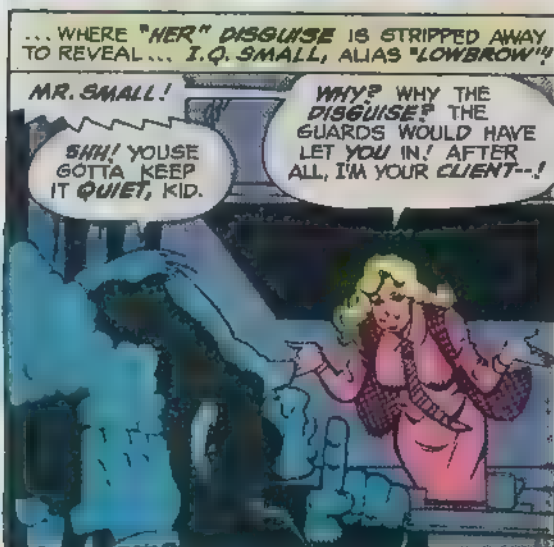
... HE CAN ALSO
MASTERMIND A
WAY TO SPRING
ME!



DINNER,
DEARIE.

WELL, IT'S
ABOUT TIME!
I WAS READY
TO EAT THE
STUFFING
IN THIS
MATTRESS!

WITH THAT, THE "MATRON"
MOVES TO A SHADY
CORNER OF THE CELL--
OUT OF SIGHT OF THE
OTHER GUARDS...

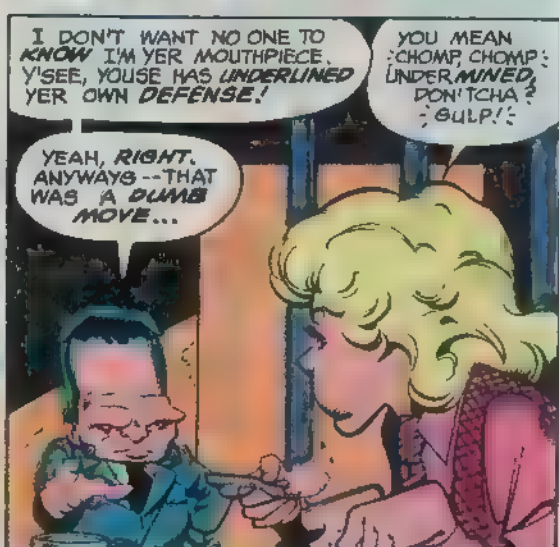


... WHERE "HER" DISGUISE IS STRIPPED AWAY
TO REVEAL... I.Q. SMALL, ALIAS "LOWBROW!"

MR. SMALL!

WHY? WHY THE
DISGUISE? THE
GUARDS WOULD HAVE
LET YOU IN! AFTER
ALL, I'M YOUR CLIENT--!

SHH! YOUSE
GOTTA KEEP
IT QUIET, KID.



I DON'T WANT NO ONE TO
KNOW I'M YER MOUTHPIECE.
Y'SEE, YOUSE HAS UNDERLINED
YER OWN DEFENSE!

YOU MEAN
:CHOMP, CHOMP:
UNDERMINED,
DON'TCHA?
:GULP!:

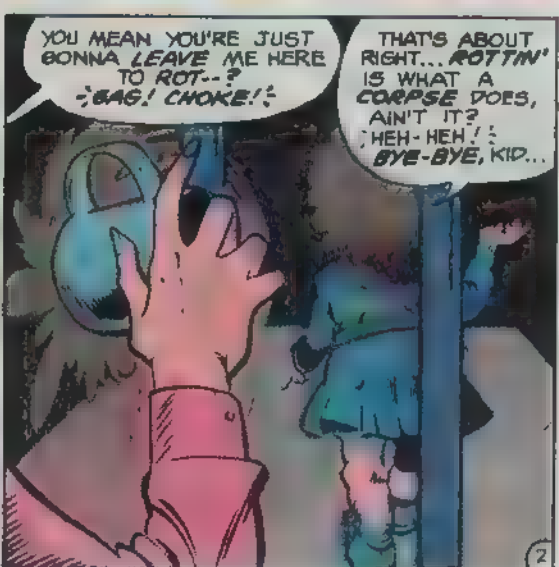
YEAH, RIGHT.
ANYWAYS--THAT
WAS A DUMB
MOVE...



... TELLIN' PLASTIC
MEN THAT YER
LAWYER THOUGHT
UP YER EXTORTION-
SCHEME! LUCKY FER
ME YA DIDN'T TELL
'EM MY NAME...

BUT THAT'LL
COME OUT AT
MY TRIAL--!

AIN'T GONNA
BE NO TRIAL!



YOU MEAN YOU'RE JUST
GONNA LEAVE ME HERE
TO ROT--?
:GAG! CHOKE!:

THAT'S ABOUT
RIGHT... ROTTIN'
IS WHAT A
CORPSE DOES,
AIN'T IT?
:HEH-HEH!:
BYE-BYE, KID...



Remember How Many Times You Felt **LEFT OUT**

Because You Were BROKE!

Places the gang was going and you couldn't. They all had money for the movies, games, hamburgers and soft drinks . . . all of them except you.

WELL YOU'LL NEVER HAVE TO BE BROKE AGAIN

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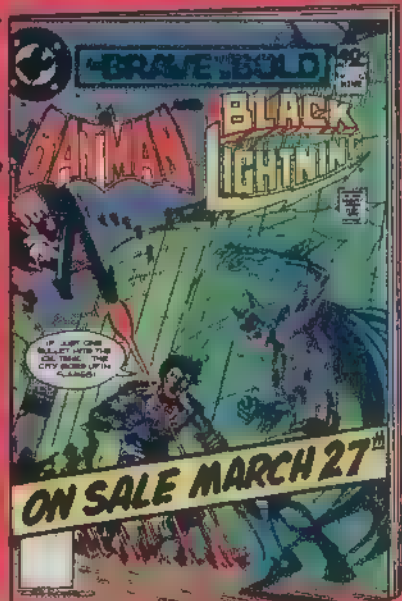
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☐ Female

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THE
DANGER!
DOUBLE
THE
FUN!**

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PULSE-POUNDING PRODUCT TO
YOU, I STILL FELT OBLIGED TO
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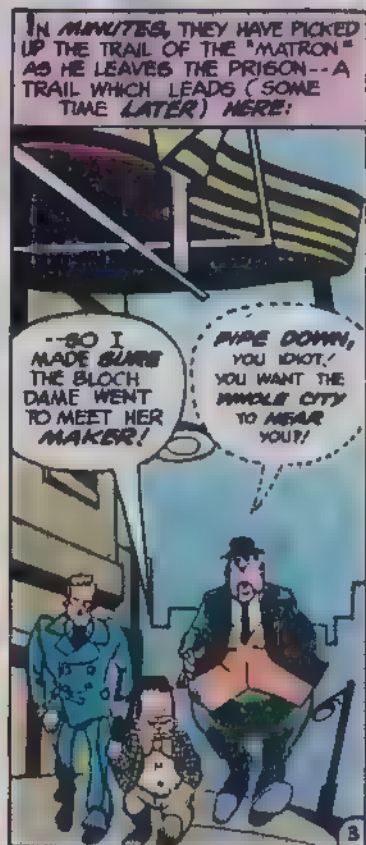
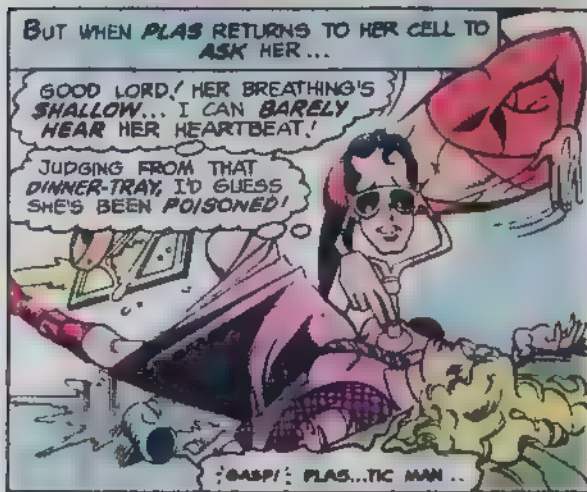
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MEANWHILE...

BOYBOY! I
WONDER HOW SHAMP
DUCK IS GONNA
ESCAPE THE DEADLY
DR. DELICTO'S
CLUTCHES THIS
TIME!

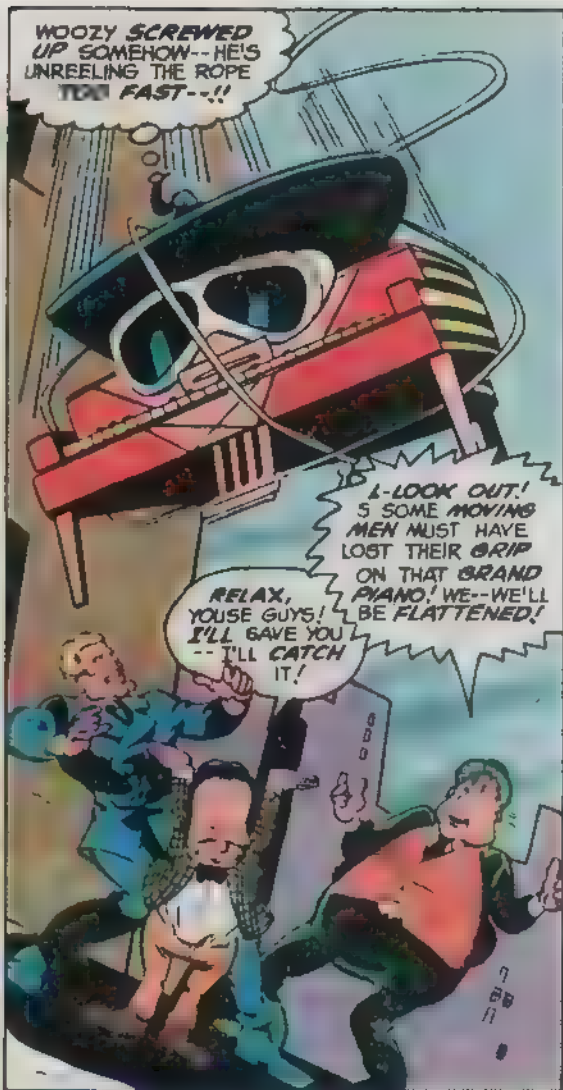


I JUST CAN'T
WAIT TO SEE WHAT'S
GONNA HAPPEN
NEXT...

YIFE!



WOOZY SCREWED
UP SOMEHOW--HE'S
UNREELING THE ROPE
TOO FAST--!!



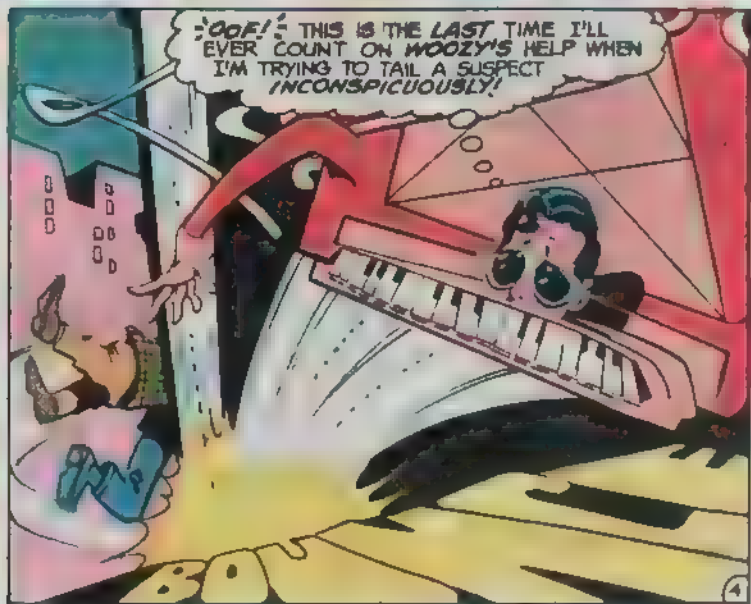
I-LOOK OUT!
SOME MOVING
MEN MUST HAVE
LOST THEIR GRIP
ON THAT GRAND
PIANO! WE--WE'LL
BE FLATTENED!

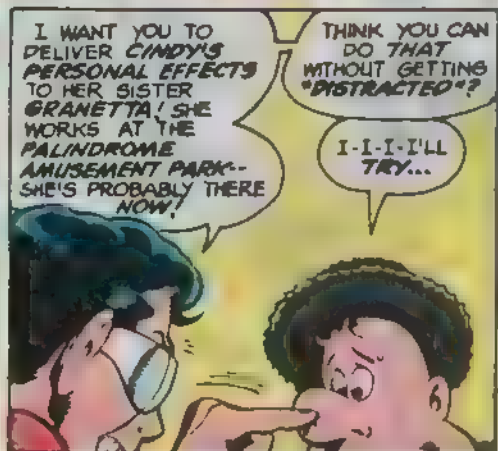
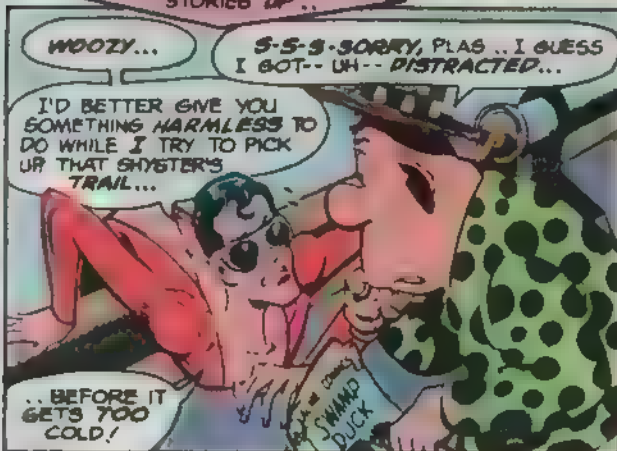
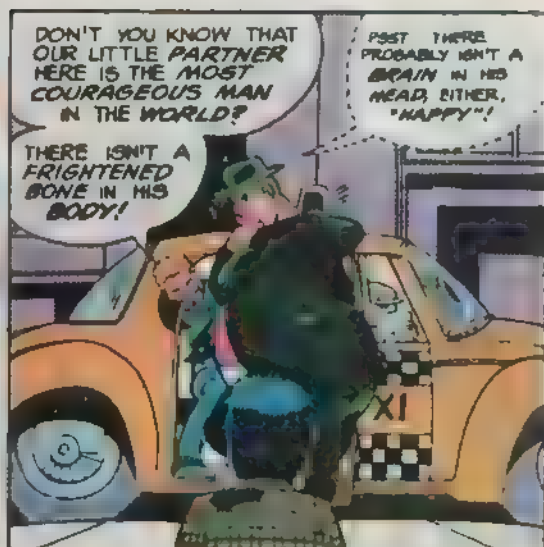
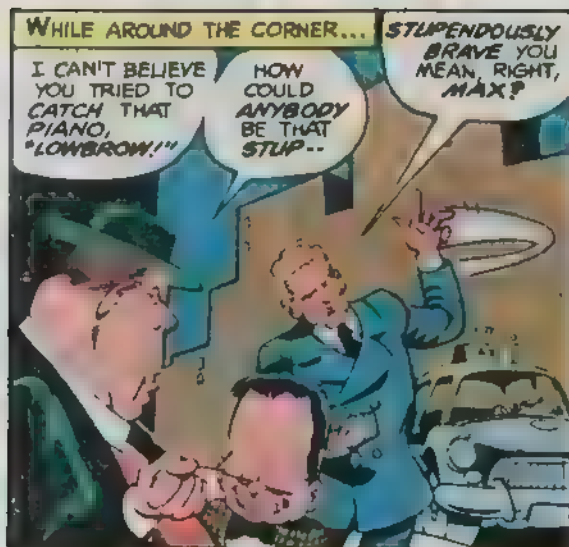
RELAX,
YOUSE GUYS!
I'LL SAVE YOU
--I'LL CATCH
IT!

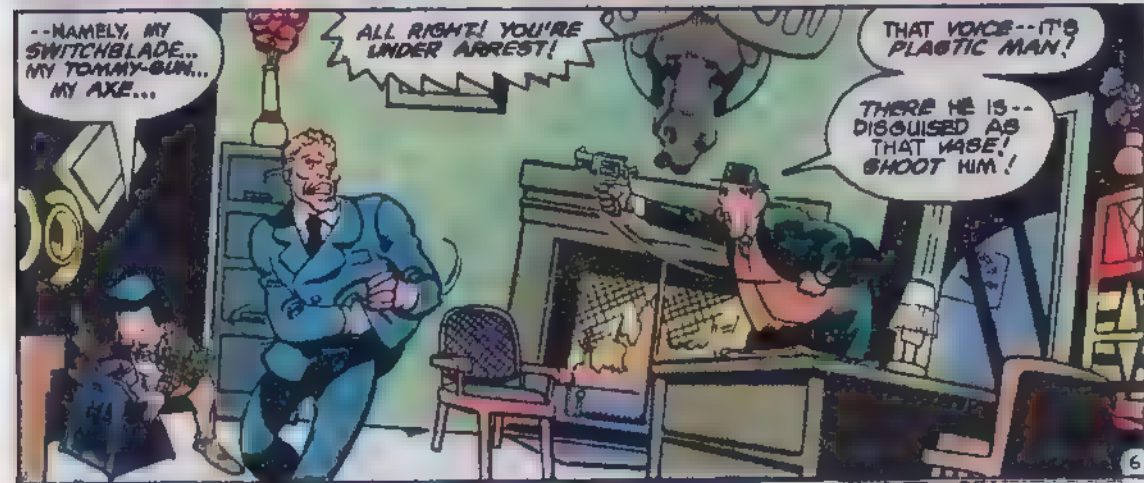
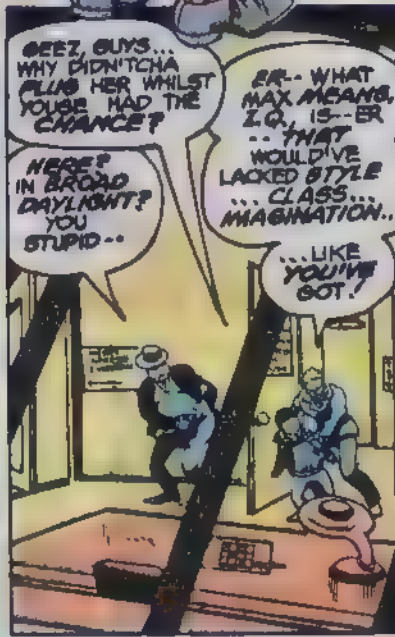
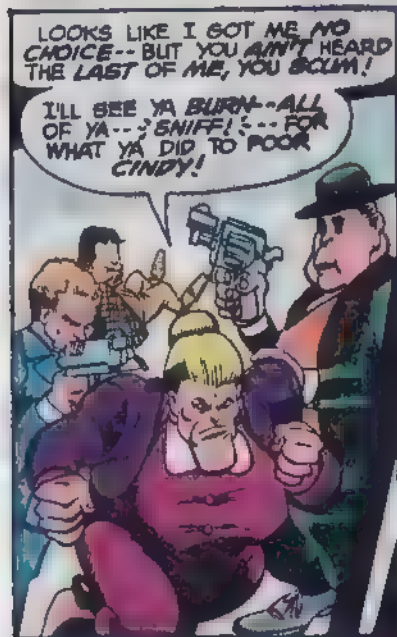
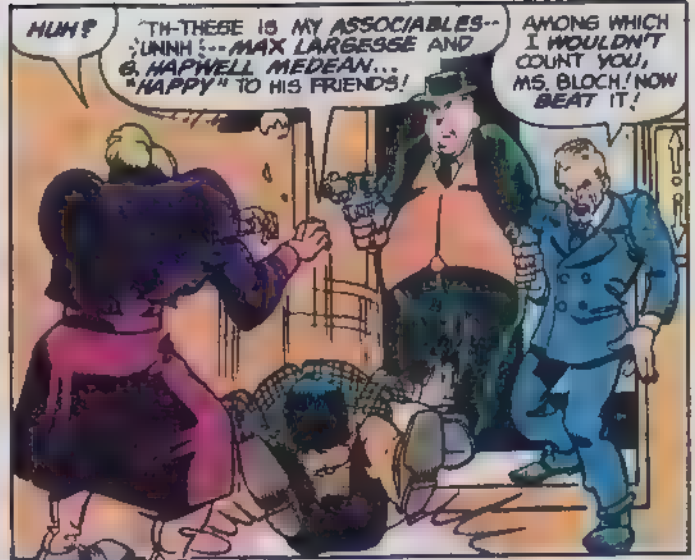
YOU'LL WHAT?!!
WHAT ARE YOU,
CRAZY??!



DOOF!! THIS IS THE LAST TIME I'LL
EVER COUNT ON WOOZY'S HELP WHEN
I'M TRYING TO TAIL A SUSPECT
INCONSPICUOUSLY!





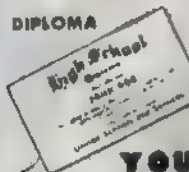


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The **GRAND PRIZE WINNER** of an all-expenses paid "Wonder Woman Weekend" in New York for two, including an afternoon at DC was **ORLANDO WATKINS**
Detroit, Michigan

And that's not ALL! The 25 winners of WONDER WOMAN WRISTWATCHES* were...

Mike Westler	Marie Lee King	Jean E. Nelson	Don Smith
Patrick J. Dwyer	Barbara A. Ward	Bobby Asendorf	Garry Wayne Brown
James G. Dum	Myrna Corzine	Richard Carter	Carol Lynn Waugh
Andria Thierry	Dene Larson	Pete Morley	Angela Marshon Jones
Daniel Huang	Fabiane Ballesteros	Jonathan Lee	
Jenny Cooke	Sandra Freefield	Barry Greenblatt	
Tim Hauser	Alphonse M. Archbold	Louella Dunann	

While the winners of 50 WONDER WOMAN SLEEPING BAGS* were

James K. Neader	Jay Neemeth	Frankie Costello	Thomas Matto
John Gilbert	Dean Hudgeons	Gloria Lintemans	Violet J. Morse
Burt H. Smith	Norman H. Smith	David Rector	Angela M. Allen
David Fawcett	David Fawcett	Steve Rector	Frank H. Matto
Mark Almodova	Brenda Davis	Renee Rector	Gordon Schramm
Neil A. M. M. M.	Margaret P. P. P.	Ruth Rector	Patricia Rector
Tania Beubauer	David Krotz	Jenny Limbaugh	Michael Mindera
Jim Burnham	K. Wiedemeier	Victor Lint	Steven Venenga
Irene Kagan	Louise Naegeli	Susan E. Bunney	Marie Terry
James L. L. L.	Nancy Bradshaw	V. M. M. M.	W. A. W. W.
Marilyn Swafford	David Cerrillo	Brenda Sue Davis	Katheryn Davis
Pauline F. Stacy	David Lebovic	P. Valerie Kahle	
Glenna Lee Newquist	Wayne E. Breech	Sal Beltran	

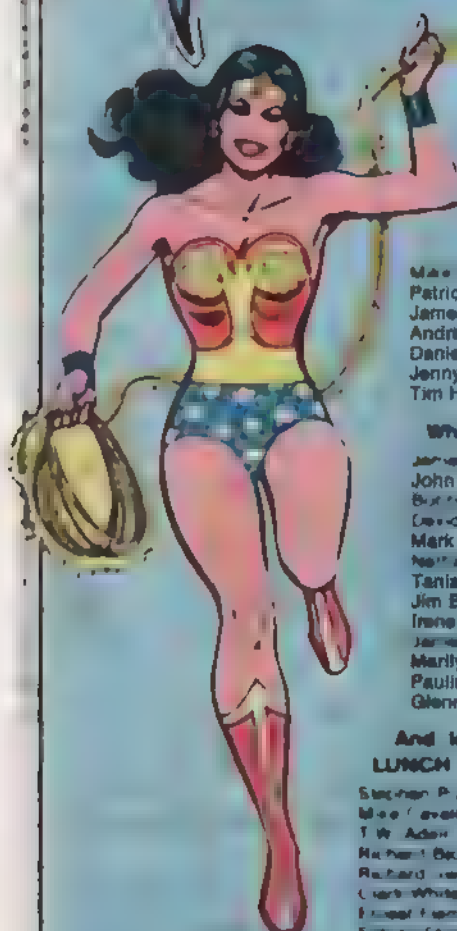
And, last but certainly not least, the 100 winners of WONDER WOMAN LUNCH BOXES* were

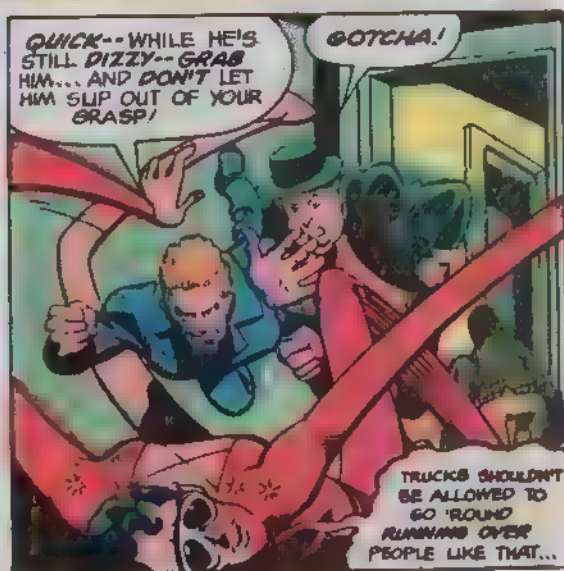
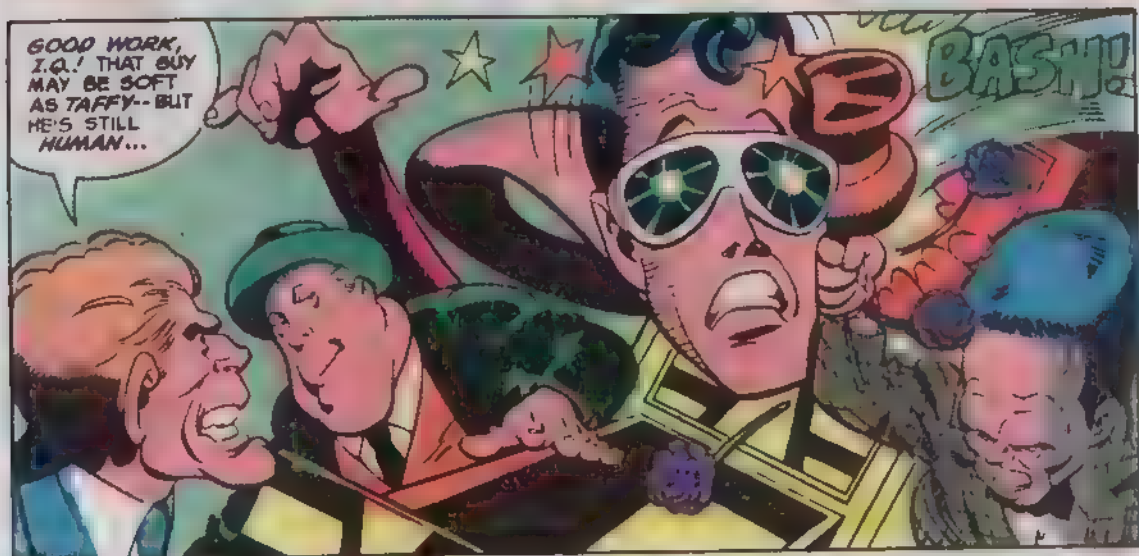
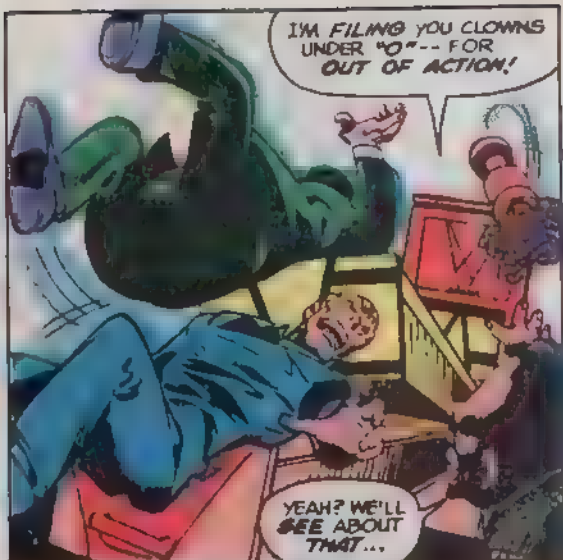
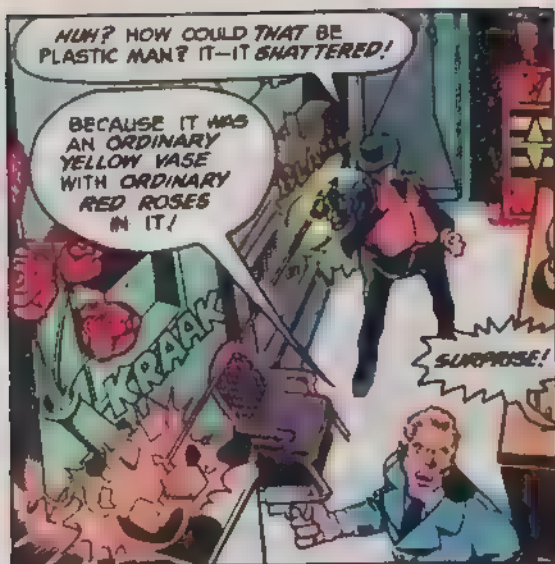
Stephen P. P. P.	Alan J. J. J.	Greg Hatton	Angela Deveney
Blair P. P. P.	Ma. W. W. W.	David A. Nelson SP/4	Bob Opalko
T. W. A. A.	Thomas Megala	Jim Miles	Caroline Hayes
Richard George	Ryan Hayes	M. Barton	Jennifer Hayes
Richard Smith	Rocky Hays	Ted Ruhland	Wayne Cain
Clark White	Tim Graham	Anthony Santiago	Jim Rhiney
Frank Fawcett	Bethel Smith	Darrell Goff	Ronald Buhalm
Sally Stern	Robert Weppelst Jr.	William L. Mathewson	Michael Johnson
Robert W. Harrison	Carl R. R.	Ynn Rector	Bethel Smith
Mary K. W. W.	Myra A. Davis	M. A. A. A.	M. W. W. W.
Kathryn L. Pope	Sgt. Robert H. Hengen	Anthony D. D. D.	M. W. W. W.
Size H. H. H.	Alexis M. M. M.	Angie H. H. H.	Angie H. H. H.
Violet Fawcett	Id. A. A. A.	Id. A. A. A.	Id. A. A. A.
Steven Hays	Brit Hays	Sam. M. M. M.	Sam. M. M. M.
Steven Hays	F. H. H. H.	David E. Hays	David E. Hays
Wanda Hays	H. H. H. H.	Id. A. A. A.	Id. A. A. A.
Wanda Hays	James Hays	Matthew Hays	Matthew Hays
Elizabeth Hays	Brian Hays	Ed Hays	Ed Hays
Anna Hays	Mary Hays	Mary Hays	Mary Hays
Dana Hays	Christy Hays	Christy Hays	Christy Hays
John F. Hays	James Hays	James Hays	James Hays
Greg Hays	Greg Hays	Greg Hays	Greg Hays
Russ Hays	David Hays	David Hays	David Hays
Brian Hays	Michael J. Caddell	Michael J. Caddell	Michael J. Caddell
Scott Bradshaw	L. H. H. H.	L. H. H. H.	L. H. H. H.

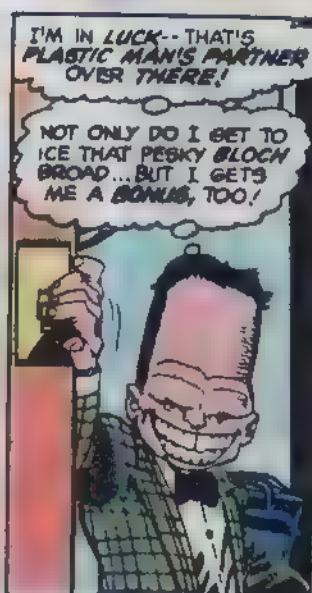
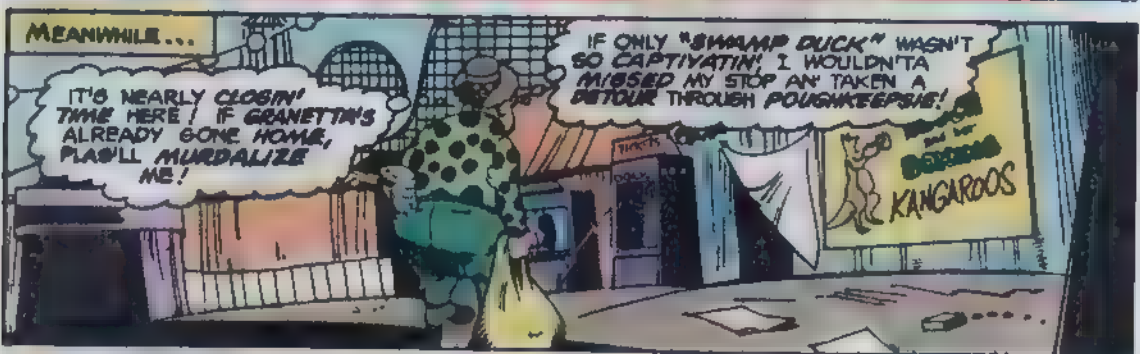
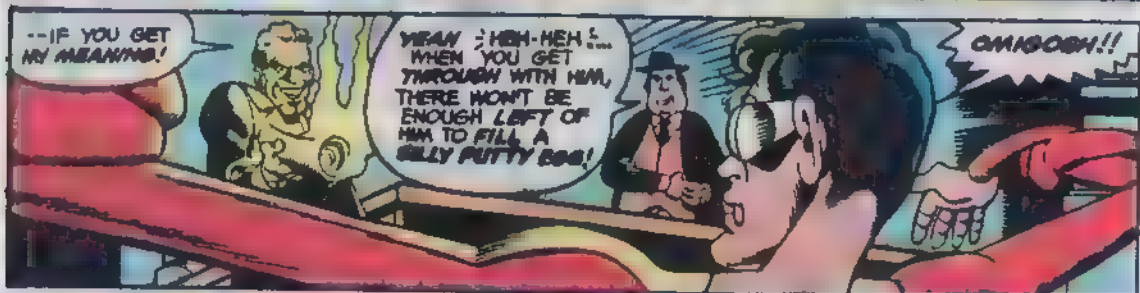
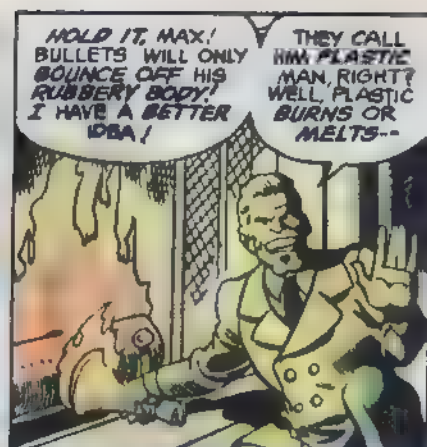
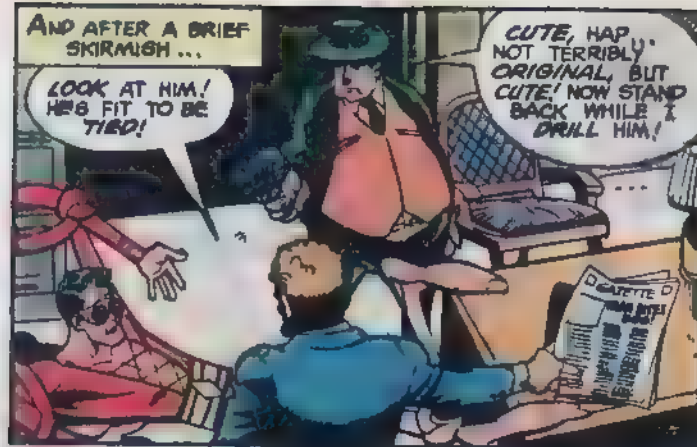
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TO BE CONTINUED!
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IS THE WORLD CRAZY?

METROPOLIS HAS CLARA KENT, LOUIS LANE, SUPERWOMAN AND MORE ODDITIES

(Metropolis)—*Superman* returns from a mission in outer space, changes to Clark Kent and finds he is barred from entering the Daily Planet newsroom. Why? Because according to the security list, he doesn't exist!

But there's more! Penny White is editor of the Planet, which has reporters Louis Lane, Jenny Olsen and Clara Kent working for it. And *Superwoman* patrols the skies over Metropolis! Can *Superman* escape this bizarre world, especially after he is branded an interplanetary criminal by *Superwoman* and is forced to battle members of the *Justice League*...similarly reversed to include *Wonder Warrior*, *Batwoman*, *Black Condor* and a female *Flash*?

The startling surprises await you in "The Turnabout Trap" by Martin Pasko, Curt Swan and Frank Chiaramonte when *SUPERMAN* #349 goes on sale the week of April 7th.

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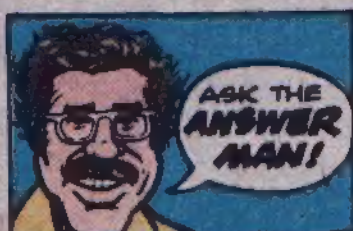
JUSTICE LEAGUE #180—*Firestorm* has joined the JLA, but can he survive "A Beautiful Evil" in this Gerry Conway/Dick Dillin/Frank McLaughlin thriller?

GHOSTS #90—Sail "The Ghost Galleon" with George Kashdan, Jack Sparling and Vince Colletta; dance with the "Phantom of the Disco" with Kashdan, Charles Nicholas and Colletta; and learn "How to Outwit a Phantom" with Carl Wessler, Sparling and Colletta.

SECRETS OF HAUNTED HOUSE #26—Take an "Elevator to Oblivion" with Valerie Owen and Amado Castriello; ride the "Last Train to Eternity" with George Kashdan, Charles Nicholas and Vince Colletta; and meet "Mikey's Friend" with J.M. DeMatteis, Nicholas and Armando Gil.

WONDER WOMAN #289—The Amazing Amazon chucks it all for a "Return to Paradise Island" by Gerry Conway, Jose Delbo, Wally Wood and Bob Smith.

SUPERMAN FAMILY #202—*Supergirl* faces "The Dynamic Duel" with Jack C. Harris, Win Mortimer and Vince Colletta; Mr. and Mrs. *Superman* meet "The Man Who Discovered Kryptonite" with E. Nelson Bridwell, Kurt Schaffenberger and Joe Giella; Clark Kent must prove a man "Innocent Beyond a Reasonable Doubt" with Bob Rozakis, John Caiman and Frank Chiaramonte; Lois Lane does a "Sven Dance for a Girl Reporter" with Gerry Conway, Bob Okner and Colletta; and Jimmy Olsen is "The Reporter Nobody Knows" with Conway, Alex Saviuk and Giella.



Q: Why was *Wildfire* called *ERG-1* in *SUPERBOY & THE LEGION* #201?—A: Draka Burroughs considered himself an Energy Release Generator with his powers.

Q: When did *OUR ARMY AT WAR* #1 appear and who starred in it?—Mike Elrod. A: It debuted in August, 1952, but did not star any particular characters.

Q: How can *Superman* breathe underwater?—Denny Steton. A: He doesn't have to. *Supes* can hold his breath indefinitely.

Q: Can anyone become a *Green Lantern*?—Aaron Eisenkrantz. A: Only someone who is totally without fear.

Q: Who came up with the idea for the *Daily Planet* section in your books?—Robert C. Grombach. A: The idea came up in a conversation between Bob Rozakis and Anthony Tollin. Bob put together a dummy issue and sold Sol Harrison and Jenette Kahn on the concept. The rest, as they say, is newspaper history.

Q: How much is *GREEN LANTERN* #100 worth?—Robert Sulcov. A: 35¢ in good condition.

VIKING COMMANDO BLASTED INTO FUTURE WAR

(World War II and Beyond)—The *Viking Commando*, who began his fighting career centuries ago, finds himself again blasted through time to a war in the far distant future. What dangers await the heroic Valeric in the "War Without a Name"? Robert Kanigher and George Evans supply the answers when *ALL-OUT WAR* #8 goes on sale the week of April 7th.

And also in this Dollar Comic battle book: *The Black Eagle* joins his "Brothers on a Bull's-Eye" by Kanigher, Dick Ayers and Romeo Tanghal; *Force Three* executes "The Double Death of Adolf Hitler" by Kanigher and Jerry Grandenetti; you'll meet the "Hard-Hat Heroes" with Evan Douglas and Bill Payne; and time ticks on as "Zero Hour is 27 Years Long" by Jan Laurie and Jess Jodloman.

Q: Why do the men of Krypton wear bands around their heads?—Unsigned. A: It is a form of formal dress, similar to neckties worn by Earthmen.

Q: Could *Princess Projectra* make someone appear invisible by projecting an illusion of them not being there?—Jim Stribling. A: I would guess that she would have to project the same scene minus the person she wanted to make "invisible".

Q: How much is *HAWKMAN* #12 worth?—Jeff Ellis. A: 80¢ in good condition.



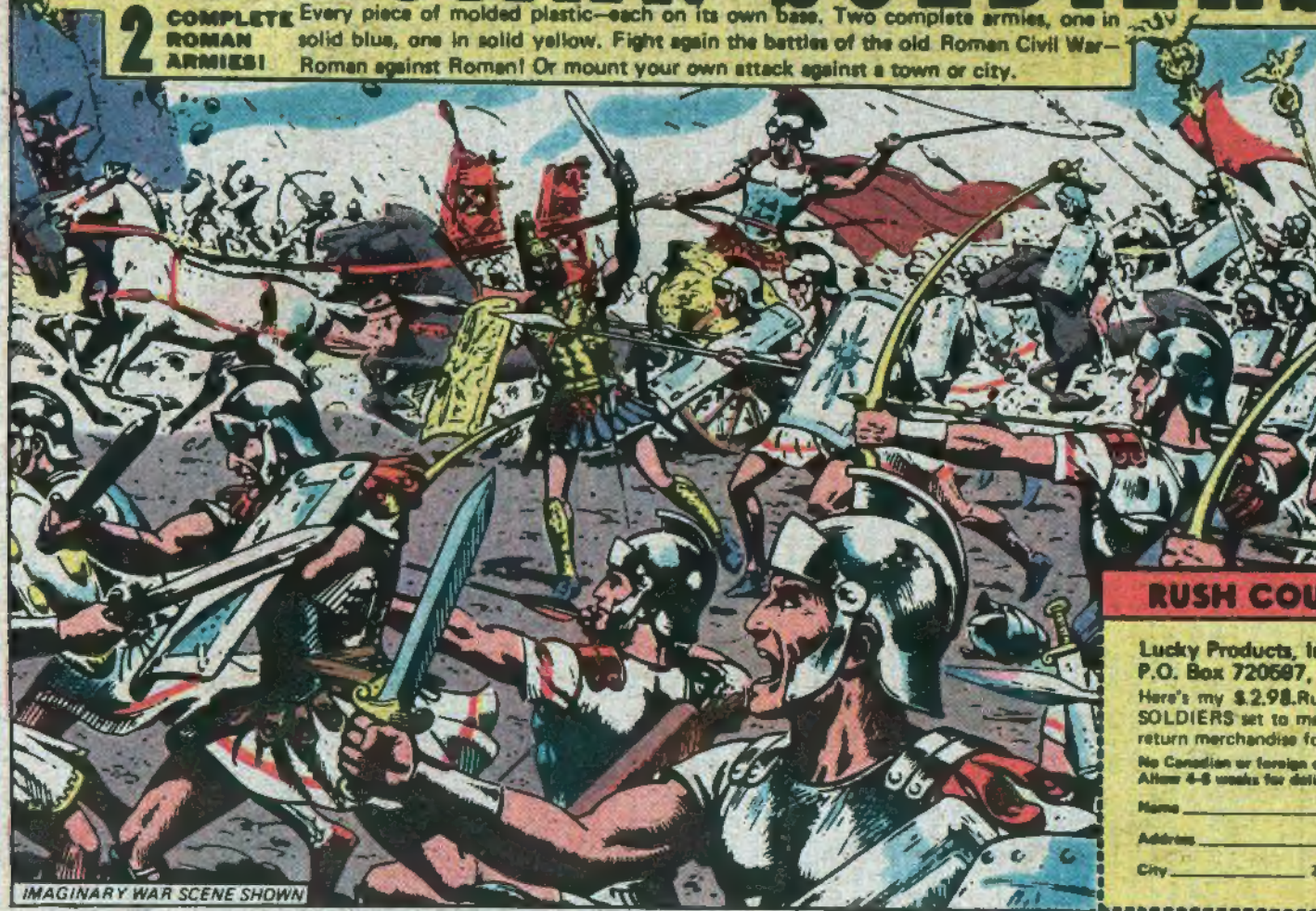
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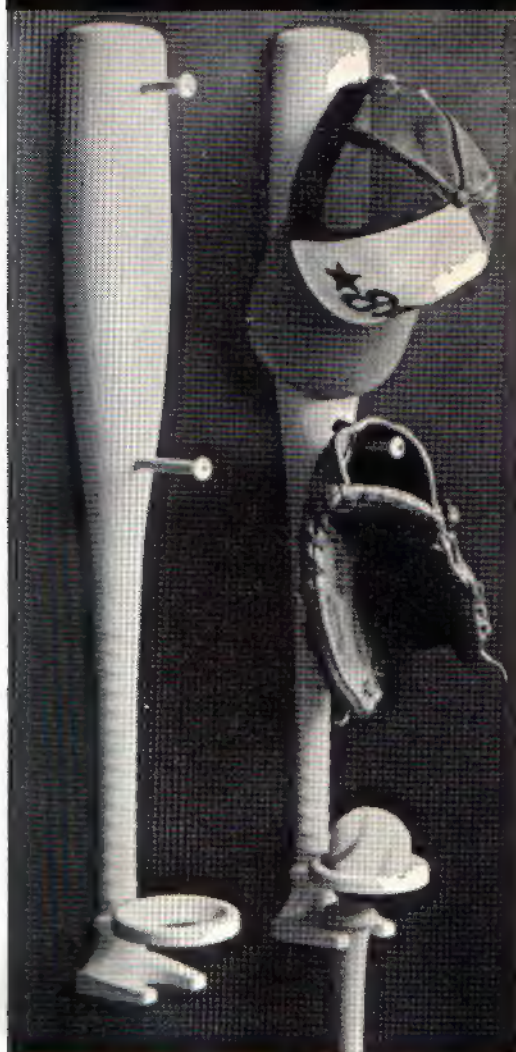
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WHAT MOVES!



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